

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REDISTRICTING/ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
APRIL 11, 2013**

The Redistricting/Ordinance Committee of the Board of Aldermen held a meeting on Thursday, April 11, 2013. Chairman F. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

F. Smith, Chairman
S. Shaw, Vice Chairman
A. Giannattasio
P. Smith
G. Gasper

ALSO PRESENT

P. Vetro, Chairman, BOA (7:08)

Chairman F. Smith stated the meeting regarding the redistricting is being held based on the 2010 census. He stated the hope is that this Committee will establish a methodology or template so that an agreement can be made on a general map to bring to the aldermen at the May meeting. Chairman F. Smith stated it was his understanding this needed to be completed on or before June 1, 2013. He explained MIS has software on this information and went on to explain the system is an ARC GIS by Esri. He stated the idea is to reapportion the City based on the 2010 census, adding this is done every 10 years. Chairman F. Smith also commented this needed to be done by primary time. He continued with an explanation of the main aldermanic redistricting map as prepared by MIS. He stated the population in Milford as of 2010 was 52,759.

Ald. P. Smith stated her understanding is that each district not be affected more than 10% of any other district.

Chairman F. Smith stated the goal is balance and parity in each district.

Ald. P. Smith added it is continuity in each district that you should be looking for. She also stated every attempt should be made to preserve as much of the district as possible and then protect the incumbents, if possible.

Ald. Shaw stated the question really is what is this Committee legally required to do.

Chairman F. Smith stated the entire enterprise is driven by the census. He stated the census data is the only criteria this Committee will use. He continued with an explanation of each of the blocks of the map, with roundtable discussion regarding each of the draft maps. He reiterated the goal of this meeting is one map or one template. Discussion resumed as to the review of each of the maps.

Ald. Shaw and Ald. P. Smith made and seconded a motion to accept draft districting map 3.19 – Version 1 as the template for the new 2010 redistricting map.

Ald. Shaw commented this gets this Committee close to where they want to be. Discussion continued.

Ald. P. Smith agreed it was good to have a template and now this Committee could proceed to fine tune it. She asked if once the blocks were finalized is MIS would then generate the street list and assign to a district.

Chairman F. Smith added a final map and spreadsheet would be made. Discussion resumed.

Ald. Shaw commented she felt the Committee had made good progress tonight.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman F. Smith stated he would like to have an ad hoc committee to meet with their respective parties to bring back a final recommendation for apportionment.

Ald. Giannattasio and Ald. G. Gasper moved to have Ald. F. Smith serve as the majority representation of the ad hoc committee and Ald. P. Smith as the minority representation of the ad hoc committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman F. Smith commented the Committee needed to address how they would arrive at a final map. Discussion ensued.

Ald. Shaw stated the maps were very good benchmarks. She also commented 10% is a lot and that the Committee needed to be able to keep the neighborhoods cohesive.

Ald. P. Smith stated the goal should be to find reasonable numbers.

Chairman F. Smith stated the spirit of the redistricting is to keep a close balance. Discussion resumed.

Ald. Shaw reminded the Committee they earlier accepted a template, but noted there is some “wiggle room” to fine tune it.

Ald. P. Smith added it does look nice, but that they would not know the full extent of the map until they do a deep dive.

Chairman F. Smith stated it was important at this point to know the legal obligation of the Committee had been fulfilled. Discussion resumed.

Chairman F. Smith stated he and Ald. P. Smith would do their due diligence with their respective parties and then move forward to have the Committee meet again.

Ald. Shaw recognized the hard work of the Chairman shepherding this group and also the research by Ald. P. Smith.

Being no further business, Ald. Giannattasio and Ald. Shaw made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The Committee adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen K. Huber
Recording Secretary